

## FURNITURE FOR KIDS' ROOM

Regarding Furniture for Kids' room, we discussed with **Neelu Jain Prasanna**, Director of Child Space, an exclusive studio for children's furniture based at Bangalore. The studio prides itself of a very exhaustive range for all ages starting from tiny-tots to teens. Neelu is also very particular about the safety and quality of the merchandise. "In a world where designs can get easily and cheaply duplicated, ensuring that the quality of the base materials and consistency of the finish is critical factor. I do not entrust this job to anybody else," says Neelu. More from her...



The idea is to make the room lively and spacious enough for children to want to feel a sense of belonging of their SPACE.

### What are the key factors to remember while choosing the right furniture for a kid's bedroom?

**Neelu Jain Prasanna** - A planned usage for a minimum of 8 to 10 years should be kept in mind. Pieces like study cum workstations can always be added on while the toddlers grow. Cots and storage solutions can be planned in advance for the growing years in the initial stages itself. **Three most important factors to be kept in mind are, age of the child/ children, space availability and utility.** In continuation to the above, early

teenagers, young children and toddlers too can be provided with comprehensive units which are space savers and practical too. We have designs from the age group of 2 years and beyond, the colors and dimensions of the storage and study solutions vary in accordance to their age. In comprehensive units, our designs have a combination of sleeping areas for a single or two children, along with a study/workstation and storage solution.

While bunker beds are ideal for 2 children in the family, some units are designed with an extra trundle bed, which come in handy when there are sleepovers and can also act as a guest bed. The bunkers are all adult sized bed to allow children to grow in them. Pure trundle bed with attached storage too works well where the child is ten years and beyond already since the fun of climbing and playing around usually ceases quite a bit. Another factor is that most parents and families may not be comfortable with the idea of a bunker bed due to the height of the unit, in such cases too pure trundle designs work well, with splashes of colors and large sleeping areas adding to the design and appeal. Complete bedroom solutions are options with twin sized or queen sized cot, co-ordinated with 2, 3 or 4 doors wardrobe solutions and large study cum workstations. Accessories like bookshelves, corner pieces, wall mounted shelves can be added on as per the need and space availability.

### Do you recommend special materials for kid's furniture for health reasons?

**Neelu Jain Prasanna** - It is preferable to work with **non-toxic painted surfaces**. Hard wood E1 /E2 quality MDF is malleable, strong, stable and good to work with to Create fun and practical designs. **Good quality MDF** once treated and painted does not emit any formaldehyde and is safe for use. Some combinations of wood with MDF too work well in creating simple and practical designs like our Victorian White series.



Childspace



Ebony Gautier

### How can we select furniture which responds to the need of the growing kid and is yet interesting?

**Neelu Jain Prasanna** - The furniture pieces should be selected keeping the **age group** of the child in mind and **their growing needs**. For instance while designing a teenager's room a large study cum workstation is very important along with a storage solution for clothes and accessories and more emphasis on balancing out the colours as they grow. In the case of a toddler's room, where the concentration should be on basic furniture like **storage solutions** and cots only with some activity table while trying to **keep the floor space as empty as possible** for the toddlers to run about. When selecting simple and toned down hues, design, wall can be accessorized with wallpapers or murals, which can be changed within few years.



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Sporty Tennis Bedroom design by Ebony Gautier